

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating a request for proposal (RFP) in an electronic marketplace, the method comprising the computer implemented steps of:

posting the RFP in an electronic marketplace;

communicating a portion of the RFP to at least one secondary marketplace participant from a plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants, wherein the primary marketplace participants are general contractors and the secondary marketplace participants are subcontractors and wherein the subcontractors submit proposals on particular components of the RFP in which they specialize;

providing access to the RFP to the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants, wherein access to the RFP is utilized by the at least one secondary marketplace participant from the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants to generate a proposal for the portion of the RFP; and

posting the proposal in the electronic marketplace.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein access to the proposal is restricted to specific parties.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

posting a modified version of the RFP in the electronic marketplace, wherein the modified version of the RFP is based upon proposals submitted by the primary and secondary marketplace participants.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic marketplace is a public marketplace.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic marketplace is a private marketplace.

7. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for use in a data processing system, for facilitating a request for proposal (RFP) in an electronic marketplace, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for posting the RFP in an electronic marketplace;

second instructions for communicating a portion of the RFP to at least one secondary marketplace participant from a plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants, wherein the primary marketplace participants are general contractors and the secondary marketplace participants are subcontractors and wherein the subcontractors submit proposals on particular components of the RFP in which they specialize;

third instructions for providing access to the RFP to the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants wherein access to the RFP is utilized by the at least one secondary marketplace participant from the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants to generate a proposal for the portion of the RFP; and

fourth instructions for posting the proposal in the electronic marketplace.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 7, wherein access to the proposal is restricted to specific parties.

10. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 7, further comprising:
instructions for posting a modified version of the original RFP in the electronic marketplace, wherein the modified version of the RFP is based upon proposals submitted by the primary and secondary marketplace participants.

11. (Original) The computer program product according to claim 7, wherein the electronic marketplace is a public marketplace.

12. (Original) The computer program product according to claim 7, wherein the electronic marketplace is a private marketplace.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for facilitating a request for proposal (RFP) in an electronic marketplace, the system comprising:

a posting component which posts the RFP in an electronic marketplace;

a first communicating component which communicates a portion of the RFP to at least one secondary marketplace participant from a plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants, wherein the primary marketplace participants are general contractors and the secondary marketplace participants are subcontractors and wherein the subcontractors submit proposals on particular components of the RFP in which they specialize;

an accessing component which facilitates access to the RFP to the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants wherein access to the RFP is utilized by the at least one secondary marketplace participant from the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants to generate a proposal for the portion of the RFP; and

posting the proposal in the electronic marketplace from at least one of the primary and secondary marketplace participants, wherein the proposal is associated with the RFP.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, wherein access to the proposal is restricted to specific parties.

16. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

a posting component which posts a modified version of the original RFP in the electronic marketplace, wherein the modified version of the RFP is ~~is~~ based upon proposals submitted by the primary and secondary marketplace participants.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, wherein the electronic marketplace is one of a private and public marketplace.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one secondary marketplace participant collaborates with at least a second one of the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants to generate the proposal for the portion of the RFP.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein access to the RFP by the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants enables the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants to propose various solutions enabling alternative work breakdowns for at least a portion of the RFP.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 7, wherein the at least one secondary marketplace participant collaborates with at least a second one of the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants to generate the proposal for the portion of the RFP.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 7, wherein access to the RFP by the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants enables the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants to propose various solutions enabling alternative work breakdowns for at least a portion of the RFP.

23. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, wherein the at least one secondary marketplace participant collaborates with at least a second one of the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants to generate the proposal for the portion of the RFP.

24. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 13, wherein access to the RFP by the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants enables the plurality of primary and secondary marketplace participants to propose various solutions enabling alternative work breakdowns for at least a portion of the RFP.